



**Date:** March 10, 2006,  
**To:** Gerald R. Miller, City Manager  
**From:** Katherine Parsons, Public Information Officer  
**For:** Mayor and Members of the City Council  
**Subject:** City Report For Week Ending March 10, 2006

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This *City Report* highlights various activities for the week ending March 10, 2006. I hope you will find this information useful. Please feel free to contact my staff should you have any questions.

### **MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS**

#### **Civil Service**

More than 200 City employees participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Civil Service Open House held March 7-8. Employees talked with the Civil Service staff and explored various City career opportunities. In addition, they attended workshops on examination preparation, interviewing techniques, and career development.

#### **City Manager**

In an on-going effort to ensure that the government relations process is transparent and accessible to the City Council, community and employees, Government Affairs staff have put legislative information online. The website provides additional tools to track bills in the State Legislature and Congress. You can now visit [www.longbeach.gov/citymanager/ga/default.asp](http://www.longbeach.gov/citymanager/ga/default.asp) for information on:

- The City's 2006 Federal and State Legislative Agenda
- City Council resolutions and actions on federal and state issues
- Federal and State Legislative Status Reports (A list of bills that the City is tracking)
- Contact information for Federal and State representatives
- Maps of elected officials' districts
- A schedule of key legislative dates

#### **Library Services**

On March 4, approximately 90 people attended the opening reception for the photography exhibit *Courage and Resiliency: Cambodian-American Women in America*, on display at the Main Library. Participants listened to the photographer, authorities on refugee trauma, and local immigrants about the hardships in Cambodia and immigration to America. The photo exhibit will be on display through April 29 and library patrons can also read the transcripts of an oral history project from the Harvard Program in Refugee Trauma.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS**

### **Library Services and Harbor Department**

The citywide *Long Beach Reads One Book*, sponsored by the Port of Long Beach, will be held March 12 – 18 to read, discuss and celebrate the book *My California: Journeys by Great Writers*, featuring twenty-seven contemporary California authors. The free weeklong activities, organized by the Long Beach Public Library Foundation, are scheduled throughout the community. Some of the events include:

**Sunday, March 12, 12-4 p.m., Lincoln Park at the Civic Center:** Free kick off event featuring exhibits that bring to life some of the essays included in the anthology. Authors D.J. Waldie and Chrissy Yost will attend.

**Tuesday, March 14, Long Beach Center for the Performing Arts, Center Theater, 6:30 – 9 p.m.:** *My California, My Long Beach: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow* with authors Edward Humes, Patt Morrison, J. Jefferson Parker, Thomas Steinbeck and D.J. Waldie. Authors will read from their essays and answer questions. The event is free of charge.

**Thursday, March 16, The Jean & Charles Lane Oceanview Gallery at the Long Beach Museum of Art, 7:30 – 10 p.m.:** Long Beach Museum of Art and Long Beach Symphony Orchestra will conduct a Californian Art and Music event beginning with a talk by critic Sue Ann Robinson followed by a solo piano performance by Gloria Cheng featuring California composers. For reservations, call 439.2119 ext. 271.

For more information on all Long Beach Read One Book events, visit [www.longbeach.gov](http://www.longbeach.gov).

### **Health and Human Services**

*Kindergarten Festivals*, sponsored by the Health Department and the Long Beach Unified School District, will be held on **March 11 and 18**, to provide parents with information on the importance of early childhood education and readiness, and assist them in the kindergarten registration process. For more information call 925.2285, ext. 122. The Festivals will be held at the following schools:

#### **Saturday, March 11**

9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at Riley Elementary School, 3319 Sandwood Street

1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at McKinley Elementary School, 6822 Paramount Boulevard

#### **Saturday, March 18**

9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at Webster Elementary School, 1755 W. 32nd Street

1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at Roosevelt Elementary School, 1574 Linden Avenue

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## **AWARD**

### **Health and Human Services**

Department Director Ronald R. Arias received, today, the Milton and Ruth Roemer Award at the Southern California Public Health Associations Annual Conference. Mr. Arias was honored for excellence in public health, and his commitment and dedication to providing services to diverse communities in Southern California.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

### **Fire**

The Fire Department responded to a total of 1,352 emergency calls for service: 148 calls for fires, of which 18 involved structures; and 700 emergency medical calls, of which 486 required paramedics.

### **Police**

Police officers responded to 673 priority one, 1,353 priority two and 1, 151 priority three calls for service, for a total of 3,177 for the reporting period.

Eight new Long Beach Police Department Explorers have graduated from the Winter Police Explorer Academy. Explorers from throughout Orange and Los Angeles Counties participated in this academy where explorers learned about ethics, firearms safety, DUI operations, SWAT, K-9, and chemical agents. The Police Explorer Program is designed for youths between the ages of 14-20 who have an interest in law enforcement. Explorers participate in ride-a-longs, competitions, safety fairs, field trips, and received classroom lectures. Anyone who is interested in becoming a Long Beach Explorer should contact Detective Rodney Tamporong at 570.8597.

## **NEIGHBORHOODS**

### **Community Development, Neighborhood Services**

On March 1, 35 residents attended a *Tenant Rights* training workshop presented by the Fair Housing Foundation of Los Angeles and held at the Neighborhood Resource Center. The training covered various issues regarding fair housing laws, occupancy standards, rent increases, evictions and habitability. For information on upcoming workshops, call 570.1010.

### **Fire**

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) made a presentation to the North Long Beach Community Action Group at the North Police Substation on March 5.

On March 8, Fire Engine 10 and Fire Museum staff attended the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual College Caminata Career Day at Long Beach City College-PCC.

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## **NEIGHBORHOODS**

### **Fire (continued)**

On March 8, Long Beach Fire Ambassadors and Engine 12 visited Grant Elementary to teach third grade students the importance of fire safety and students went through the Fire Safety House.

### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Programs Bureau**

More than 900 participants and spectators attended the Long Beach Little League's opening day at Stearns Champions Park on March 4.

### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Enrichment Programs Bureau**

On March 5, Rancho Los Cerritos began offering special tours of the historic garden. The tours will be held every first Sunday of the month between March and October, and participants can learn about exotic trees and citrus, and meander through the pathways filled with fragrant flowers and trees dating to the 1840s and 1880s.

### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Planning and Development Bureau**

On March 10 and March 11, El Dorado Nature Center hosted a facilitator-training workshop for the nationwide *Project Learning Tree* curriculum that uses plants as a window to the world. The curriculum is aligned to Science and Language Arts standards on both a state and national level and is used by thousands of teachers to bring science into their classrooms.

Work continued on the existing pool building and the new locker rooms at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park. The mural on the south wall of the existing pool building has been removed and stored. Progress of this project can be viewed on the Internet at [www.mlkpooladd.blogspot.com/](http://www.mlkpooladd.blogspot.com/).

Rough framing is complete on the pool offices in Silverado Park. Pool trenching, sewer line work, pool drain installation, HVAC ductwork, and pool deck demolition are in progress.

Concrete flatwork has been completed for ADA accessibility improvements at the north and south restrooms at the Colorado Lagoon.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **Community Development, Neighborhood Services**

On March 7, twelve business and property owners from the Fourth Street Business Corridor attended an informational business meeting to learn about available City programs and resources. Representatives from Police, Community Planning, Business Assistance, Economic Development, Code Enforcement and Health were present. Five applications from business owners interested in taking part of the Commercial Improvement Rebate program were received and nine business owners applied to be part of the Business Watch Program.

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

#### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Programs Bureau**

On March 4, Whaley Park hosted a free *Voice and Keyboard Workshop* for youth. Eleven women from the International Fraternity of Sigma Alpha Iota at California State University, Long Beach, provided instruction in piano keyboard, vocal jazz, vocal musical theater and vocal Disney music. More than 40 children attended this workshop, which culminated with a music recital for their parents and friends. A total of 80 parents and children directly and indirectly benefited from this wonderful experience.

Belmont Plaza Pool, in cooperation with the Golden West Swim Club, hosted the 2006 Short Course Junior Olympics from March 8 through March 12, with approximately 2,250 athletes and spectators in attendance.

#### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Special Events and Filming Bureau**

Avery Pictures, with a cast and crew of 100, filmed a Feature movie *Fracture*, at St. Mary Hospital and at a residence on March 9.

### **OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE**

#### **Long Beach Gas & Oil, Gas Services Bureau**

From February 26 through March 4, staff completed a total of 2,922 service calls. This total included 865 and Water Utility Turn Ons, and 834 Turn Offs. During this period, 941 Customer Service Orders were completed for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 282 meter maintenance and billing-related orders were completed. In addition, Gas Control/Dispatch (24/7 operation) received 522 emergency phone calls that resulted in 109 emergency orders being sent out.

### **CONSTRUCTION REPORT**

#### **Public Works, Street Improvements**

Contact: 570.5160

Anaheim Street	Obispo to Ximeno
10th St.	Orange Ave. to Cherry Ave.
Estimated Completion:	March 2006

#### **Long Beach Water, Alley Service Lateral Conversion**

Contact: 570. 2326

Cedar Ave.	E. Burnett St. to Hill St.
Chestnut Ave.	E. Burnett St. to Hill St.
Pasadena Ave.	E. Burnett St. to Pacific Electric Railroad
Linden Ave.	E. Burnett St. to 25 <sup>th</sup> Way
Estimated Completion:	April 2006

#### **Long Beach Gas and Oil, Gas Pipe Installation**

Orange Ave.	Between Lewis and Cherry Ave.
Estimated completion:	April 24, 2006

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**CONSTRUCTION REPORT (continued)**

**Long Beach Gas and Oil, Gas Regulator Station Rebuild**

Contact: 570.2060

Colorado St. and Nieto Ave.

Estimated Completion: April 2006

**Long Beach Gas and Oil, Gas Pipe Installation**

Contact 570.2060

Clair Del Ave.

East of Cherry Ave. and South of Del Amo Blvd.

Estimated completion: May 2006

**Public Works, Street Improvements**

Contact: 570.5160

Atlantic Ave.

North of Artesia Blvd. to a point North of 68th St.

Cherry Ave.

North of Artesia Blvd. to 70th St.

Artesia Blvd.

East of Obispo Ave. to Downey Ave.

Change Estimated Completion: March 2006

**Public Works, Street Improvement**

Contact: 570-5160

Cherry Ave.

Spring St. to Bixby Rd.

Estimated completion: May 2006

**Long Beach Gas and Oil, Gas Pipe Installation**

Alleys west of Oregon and Patterson

Estimated completion: March 2006

GRM: KP: arc

cc: Christine Shippey, Assistant City Manager  
Reginald Harrison, Deputy City Manager  
Suzanne Mason, Deputy City Manager  
City Manager Department Heads  
Tom Modica, Manager, Government Affairs  
Jyl Marden, Assistant to the City Manager